

VERMONT STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
Meeting of the Board of Trustees – Conference Call, Treasurer's Conference
Room

July 13, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

DRAFT COPY – NOT YET APPROVED BY BOARD

Please note all member participated via telephone, video, or teleconference:

Members present:

ROGER DUMAS, Chair, VRSEA Representative (term expiring October 31, 2024)
ERIC DAVIS, VSEA Representative (term expiring September 30, 2023)
JEAN-PAUL ISABELLE, VSEA Representative (term expiring September 30, 2024)
BETH FASTIGGI, Commissioner of Human Resources
ADAM GRESHIN, Commissioner of Finance and Management
JAY WISNER, Governor's Delegate position
ALLEN BLAKE, VRSEA Alternate Representative (term expiring October 31, 2024)
JOHN VORDER BRUEGGE, VSEA Alternate Representative (term expiring September 30, 2024)

Members absent:

MICHAEL PIECIAK, VT State Treasurer
THOMAS MOZZER, VSEA Representative (term expiring September 30, 2023)

Also attending:

Gavin Boyles, Deputy State Treasurer (*designated voting member on behalf of Treasurer Pieciak)
Tom Golonka, Chair, VPIC Board of Trustees'
Eric Henry, Chief Investment Officer, VPIC
Tim Duggan, Director, Vermont Retirement Systems
Nicole Weidman, Director of Retirement Operations and Policy
Stephen Barry, Financial Administrator, Retirement Division
Justin St. James, Staff Attorney, Vermont State Treasurer's Office
Briana Howard, Retirement Specialist, Retirement Division

The Chair, Roger Dumas, called the Thursday, July 13, 2023 meeting to order at 9:01 a.m., which was held by conference call.

ITEM 1: Agenda approval and announcements

On a motion made by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. Wisner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

Mr. Duggan and Mr. Boyles discussed the effects of the flood on the operational capacity of the Treasurer's Office. They explained that the Pavilion Building is closed due to severe flooding and that Retirement staff are planning to be operating fully remote for at least the month of July.

ITEM 2: Approve the Minutes of:

· June 8, 2023

On a motion made by Mr. Wisner, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

ITEM 3: VPIC Portfolio Review and Experience Study Update

Mr. Golonka updated the Board on the current operations of VPIC. He explained that they have hired both an actuary, Gabriel, Roeder, Smith & Company (GRS), to assist with the rate of return assumption as well as an investment consultant, Meketa Investment Group, to assist in their work on the divestment study.

Mr. Dumas asked about investment of the OPEB funds and who was currently in charge of those investments. Mr. Golonka explained that role is currently with the State Treasurer's Office and not VPIC. Mr. Duggan further explained that there was an appropriation in the BAA to study the governance structure of OPEB investment.

Mr. Henry discussed some changes to the asset allocation as well as the changes to risk and return expectations over the last year due to fixed income. He also spoke to the divestment study and expects to have preliminary results by December.

Mr. Golonka and Mr. Henry left the meeting at 9:27 a.m.

ITEM 4: Disability Recommendation(s) from the June 15, 2023 meeting of the Medical Review Board:

· Trevor Lewis

On a motion made by Mr. Wisner, seconded by Mr. Boyles, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Medical Review Board for the disability retirement for Trevor Lewis.

· Joseph Ruzzo

On a motion made by Mr. Wisner, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Medical Review Board for the disability retirement for Joseph Ruzzo.

· Rebecca Trower

On a motion made by Mr. Wisner, seconded by Mr. Isabelle, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Medical Review Board for the disability retirement for Rebecca Trower.

ITEM 5: Adjournment

Mr. Duggan discussed the Board's schedule for the second half of the year. He explained that staff would like to consolidate all September meetings to one day for the Experience Study review, much like the yearly Actuarial Valuation meetings that take place in October.

On a motion made by Mr. Isabelle, seconded by Mr. Boyles, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:32 a.m.

Next Meeting Date:

The next regularly scheduled VSERS Board meeting is on August 10, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S B' followed by a stylized flourish.

Stephen Barry
Secretary to the Board